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NFAC #1531-79
26 March 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director, National Foreign Assessment Center
FROM : Coordinator for Academic Relations, NFAC
SUBJECT : "Assignment" of NIO Consultants

1. The status report on current NIO consultants I prepared and delivered to you on 16 March describes 25 of the 28 consultants listed as "consultants to" a particular NIO and notes in one case that a consultant is "not currently assigned to a particular NIO." These descriptions may have produced some confusion.

2. Most of the consultants on the list were originally nominated by particular NIOs because the latter considered them outstanding authorities on the subjects of their (the NIOs') concern. A smaller number of the consultants on the list were nominated by the DCI or by the Director, NFAC. It is convenient to consider the larger group as "consultants to" or as "assigned to" the NIOs who nominated them. In the case of the smaller group I have endeavored to persuade the NIOs who seemed to me appropriate to include the names of the consultants nominated by the DCI or the Director, NFAC on their consultant lists. When I have done this without meeting with any objections from the NIO in question I have listed that particular individual as "consultant to" that NIO. In several of these cases the consultant has not yet served the NIO so the relationship remains purely nominal.

3. Three of the consultants on the list of 28 are not -- so far -- even nominally "assigned" to NIOs. The explanations are as follows:

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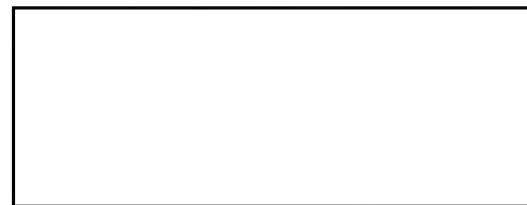


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4. While it is natural that the NIOs should consider consultants they have nominated as, in some sense, their property, it is also important for all to understand that any consultant on the roster is available to them in appropriate cases. They likewise should understand that, with appropriate coordination, they may also consult any other suitably cleared NFAC consultants. Currently, about 25 experts, in addition to those on the NIO consultants list, are available as regular NFAC consultants. Most of these are technical specialists available to the Offices of Scientific Intelligence and Strategic Research for whom the NIOs are unlikely to have much need. But the principle that all NFAC consultants are available to the NIOs seems worth maintaining.



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